# CLAYTON BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

Regular Business Meeting August 16, 2016
4:00 P.M.

## SUMMARY MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Dorothy Hall, Vice-Chairman Patricia Pullar, Secretary Ruth Ash, Board Member Harry Osborne, Board Member George Sligh, Director Shauna Dozier and Clerk Allison Ruotolo. GUEST: Shalanda Miller, Senior Staff Attorney and Reginald McClendon, Staff Attorney.

1. Chairman Hall called the meeting to order.

2. Moment of silence observed.

3. Chairman Hall welcomed Mr. George Sligh back to the Board.

4. Motion by Board Member Sligh, second by Vice-Chairman Pullar, to adopt the agenda for the August 16, 2016 Regular Business Meeting of the Board of Elections and Registration. Vote unanimous.

5. Motion by Board Member Osborne, second by Secretary Ash, to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2016 Regular Business Meeting and July 29, 2016 Special Called Meeting of the Board of Elections and Registration. Vote unanimous.

6. Old Business: None.

7. New Business:
   - A. Director's Report.
   - B. City of College Park Temporary Polling Place Proposal No. 05/16.
   - C. Adoption of Board Policy: Voter Registration Applications.
   - D. Additional Opening of Advance In Person Sites for November General Election.

8. Director Dozier updated the Board on the check-in pilot for the July 26, 2016 Democratic Primary and Non Partisan Runoff election stating the pilot was successful and that poll workers were pleased with not having to wait more than two (2) minutes in line. Also, memory cards with results were uploaded by 9:45 p.m. Election Day.

9. Director Dozier presented the City of College Park temporary polling place proposal for the City of College Park and the City of Jonesboro Special Elections being held in conjunction with the November 8, 2016 General Election.

10. Director Dozier stated that for the November 8, 2016 General Election four (4) nomination petitions had been received. Mr. Steven VanDyke, an Independent Candidate for County Commission District 2, was not successful in obtaining the required number of signatures for his petition. Two (2) petitions for President were received from the Secretary of State's Office. One of the petitions was for Jill Stein containing an estimated three thousand and sixty-three (3,063) petition signers' signatures. The other petition for Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente was received with an estimated five thousand (5,000) signatures to verify for the Secretary of States' Office. The Constitutional Party submitted eighteen (18) signatures to verify. Ms. Dozier stated the staff is currently working to finalize the petitions.

11. Ms. Dozier stated there was one (1) Qualified Write-In Candidate, Mr. Steven VanDyke.

12. Ms. Dozier explained that currently there is not a Board policy regarding the number of voter registration applications given to the public. It is Ms. Dozier's recommendation through experience that a uniform number of voter registration applications be established to give the same amount to everyone. It is difficult to maintain a supply of voter registration applications in the office and supply to the public. Also, being able to register to vote online and with the Department of Drivers Services, Ms. Dozier recommends establishing a Board policy of twenty-five (25) applications that can also be copied and downloaded from our website.

13. Board Member Osborne stated he is ill at ease that Vice-Chairman Pullar did not carbon copy the Republican Party on an email sent to the Elections Director, Elections and Registration Board, State Democratic Party, and blind carbon copied another party. Mr. Osborne stated he does not believe it is the purpose or function of any member of the Board of Elections to be acting either at the behest of or the benefit of one political party. Mr. Osborne thinks the Board is above and independent of that and the emails have compromised that to him.

14. Vice-Chairman Pullar stated she believes there is nothing in the election code that denies her the responsibility of questioning the number of registered voters in Clayton County and copying people that are interested in the information. Ms. Pullar further stated it does not matter who she is copying as a Board Member.

Vice-Chairman Pullar stated that she believes this is the second or third time Board Member Osborne has mentioned her dual role.

Mr. Osborne stated that is because there has been two or three instances.

Ms. Pullar expressed that her interests are in the current number of registered voters and the number of registered voters from the Primary Election. She is interested in whether voters have been purged, deleted or placed in inactive status.

Board Member Osborne asked Vice-Chairman Pullar why she carbon copied the State Democratic Party Chairman.

Vice-Chairman Pullar stated this might be happening all around the state so she is trying to get an answer as to why this is occurring and if she is the only one looking at these numbers to whether or not this is occurring.

Chairman Hall stated that she does not think that is the particular process that Mr. Osborne is referring to. Mrs. Hall states that she thinks Mr. Osborne is referring to the email appearing biased because the information was not shared with both parties.

Vice-Chairman Pullar stated that Mr. Osborne could forward the email to the Republican Party, but she does not know who that person is.

Board Member Osborne stated he is referring to the email to the Elections Director and the Elections and Registration Board was blind copied to the State Democratic Party. Mr. Osborne stated it certainly is a legitimate concern.

Board Member Osborne asked Vice-Chairman Pullar if she forwarded the email as a blind copy because the details did not show up in the email.

Board Member Osborne asked Vice-Chairman Pullar if she was going to answer.

Vice-Chairman Pullar stated it was not her intention to be partisan and she would forward the email to the Republican Party.

15. Director Dozier stated that she did respond to the email after she spoke with the Secretary of State's Office to verify that in June and August 2015 the no change of address confirmation notices went out and the voters that did not respond went into inactive status in October 2015. Ms. Dozier stated there have been no deletions with the exception of people who have moved out of county, felons, or deceased voters. Director Dozier clarified that the number referred to in the email was only active voters.

16. Director Dozier recommended opening an additional three (3) Advance Voting locations for the November 8, 2016 General Election. The recommendation would have a site open in each of the four (4) Commission Districts for twenty-one (21) days.

17. Vice-Chairman Pullar expressed concern regarding the office telephone prompting service when the public contacts the office.

18. Board Member Osborne stated Ms. Pullar's concern sounds like a personnel matter and micromanagement which is not incumbent of the Board. Mr. Osborne stated if there is a concern with Director Dozier's performance, it should be addressed as a personnel matter.

19. Vice-Chairman Pullar expressed concern regarding issuing of ballots for the July 26, 2016 Democratic Primary and Non Partisan Runoff Election.

20. Motion by Board Member Osborne, second by Board Member Sligh, to approve Proposal No. 05/16 for the temporary polling relocation for the City of College Park Special Election to be held in conjunction with the November 8, 2016 General Election. Vote unanimous.

21. Motion by Board Member Sligh, second by Board Member Osborne, to approve Director Dozier's recommendation of a Board Policy limiting the number of paper voter registration applications issued to public to twenty-five (25) per person to provide uniformity. Motion passes 3 – 2. Vice-Chairman Pullar and Secretary Ash opposed the number of applications.

22. Motion by Secretary Ash, second by Board Member Sligh, to approve Director Dozier's recommendation of opening an additional three (3) Advance Voting locations to include a site open in each of the four (4) Commission Districts for twenty-one (21) days for the November 8, 2016 General Election. Vote unanimous.

23. PUBLIC COMMENT:

(1) Chuck Ware of Clayton County expressed concern for limiting paper voter registration applications to twenty-five (25). Mr. Ware stated when he gets one-hundred (100) applications,

he gets one-hundred (100) applications. Further, he states when he gets thirty (30) or forty (40) applications, he holds them until he has fifty (50) or one-hundred (100) applications.

(2) Jessie Goree of Clayton County expressed a concern for bias among the Board of Elections and Registration. Ms. Goree also expressed concern in limiting the number of voter registration applications to twenty-five (25) as a form of voter suppression and Board of Education district lines not being correct.

(3) Linda Pritchett of House District 63 expressed concern for irregularities during the July 26, 2016 Democratic Primary and Non Partisan Runoff Election.

(4) Wayne Wright of Clayton County expressed concern for possibly receiving the wrong ballot in the July 26, 2016 Democratic Primary and Non Partisan Runoff Election.

(5) Chuck Ware of Clayton County asked where the word Non Partisan came from. He asked if it is a group, club, or organization.

(6) Eric Bell of Clayton County stated he was a candidate in the July 26, 2016 Democratic Primary and Non Partisan Runoff Election and expressed concern in limiting the voter registration applications to twenty-five (25). Mr. Bell also expressed concern regarding Democratic and Non Partisan ballots in the Runoff election.

24. Motion by Board Member Osborne, second by Secretary Ash, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel matters at approximately 5:25 p.m.

25. Board of Elections and Registration reconvened to the Regular Session of the August 16, 2016 Regular Business Meeting at approximately 5:50 p.m.

**{SIGNATURES NEXT PAGE}**

There being no further business, motion by Board Member Osborne, second by Board Member Sligh to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting at approximately 5:51 p.m. Vote unanimous.

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SUMMARY MINUTES

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

DOROTHY FOSTER HALL, CHAIRMAN

PATRICIA PULLAR, VICE-CHAIRMAN

RUTH F. ASH, SECRETARY

GEORGE SLIGH, BOARD MEMBER

HARRY A. OSBORNE, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST:

ALLISON R. RUOTOLO, CLERK